

THE FARM PROGRAM FOR 1942

General
Aims

Aims include:

1. Increased production of vital "foods for freedom";
2. Adjust acreage and marketings of surplus crops;
3. Continuation of 3-point program -
 - (a) to provide abundant supplies of food and fiber;
 - (b) to conserve and build up soil resources;
 - (c) to support farm prices and aid the farmer in getting a fair share of the national income.

Agriculture takes the lead in planning - continuing and expanding its adjustment program to provide balanced abundance of all farm products -- taking steps to obtain voluntary cooperation, farm by farm, commodity by commodity.

Production
Program
1942

National, State, and county goals are determined for all agricultural commodities.

Personal canvass of every farm is being made by AAA farmer committees to ascertain the part each farm can play in meeting goals.

Some examples of adjustments, both upward and downward, for 1942:

| | Milk | Eggs | Wool | Soybeans | Peanuts | Upland Cotton | Corn | Wheat |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Production 1941 | 117 billion million | 3,340 billion million | 16.8 billion lbs. | 5.9 million acres | 1.9 million acres | 23.6 million acres | 87.4 million acres | 63.5 million acres |
| Production Goals, 1942 | 125 billion million | 3,700 billion million | 18.7 billion lbs. | 7.0 million acres | 3.5 million acres | 22.1 million acres | 87.5 million acres | 55.0 million acres |
| | lbs. | dozen | liveweight | harvested | harvested | planted | planted | planted |
| | dozen | liveweight | harvested | harvested | 1/planted | planted | planted | planted |

Administrative
Machinery

U. S. Department of Agriculture Defense Boards in every State and county are responsible for mobilizing all agriculture for defense tasks - example, directing drive for increased production of defense foods. Farmer chairmen of State and county AAA Committees are chairmen of State and county Defense Boards.

AAA already reaches nearly all farmers in United States through local AAA committees consisting of farmers elected by farmers, in every agricultural county. County and community committeemen and alternates totaled 136,180 under the 1941 program.

1/ Includes 1.9 million acres for oil in addition to the allotment of 1.6 million acres for nuts.

Ever-Normal Granary renders vital defense service:

1. Provides ample supplies of feed grains for conversion into defense foods;
2. Aids in protecting consumers against scarcity and inflated prices;
3. Prevents surpluses from bankrupting farmers in big crop years.

Ever-Normal
Granary

United States has enough wheat to last 2 years, four times normal carry-over of corn.

Acreage allotments under the Agricultural Conservation Program have reduced acreage in soil-depleting crops for which foreign market has dwindled - examples, cotton and wheat. Land, labor, and materials have been saved. In 1940, acreage of soil-depleting crops was 30 million acres below 5-year average, 1928-32.

Many conservation practices also have been carried out - example, enough terracing to reach more than twice around the earth.

Soil
Conservation

Six million farmers cooperated in 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program which covered farms comprising 365 million acres, 80 percent of total United States cropland.

In 1942, emphasis is on positive performance in soil-building and soil-conserving practices. In all of Western and North Central Regions, western Texas, western Oklahoma, Maryland, and Delaware, a minimum of 20 percent of cropland of farmers cooperating in AAA program will be devoted to soil-conserving crops and land uses; in all of the Northeast Region, most of the Southern Region, and in Tennessee, a minimum acreage equivalent to 25 percent of the cropland will be planted to erosion-resisting crops; in the other East Central States, three counties of Georgia, and one county in Louisiana, a minimum amount of soil-building practices will be performed; in Alabama and several counties in Mississippi, a farm conservation plan will be carried out.

Commodity loans enable farmers to hold surplus crops off market until they are needed or market conditions are improved, otherwise prices would fall to ruinous levels.

Loan rates were raised to 85 percent of parity in 1941 on cotton, corn, wheat, tobacco, rice.

Commodity
Loans

Average loan rates for 1941 crops are: Wheat, 98¢ per bushel; cotton, 14.02¢ per lb.; corn, 74.8¢ per bu.; rice, 92¢ per bu. Tobacco rates vary by types but are considerably above last year's. Loans are also available on such nonbasic crops as flax, barley, and rye.

Marketing
quotas

Marketing quotas are proclaimed as necessary when supplies of either cotton, corn, wheat, tobacco, or rice exceed total demand by amounts specified by law, quotas for peanuts are proclaimed each year. Quotas take effect when approved by two-thirds of the farmers voting in referendum. Quotas divide equitably among growers the responsibility for adjusting to a limited market.

quotas have been used by cotton and tobacco growers for several years -- were adopted by wheat and peanut producers for first time in 1941. Tobacco and peanuts under 3-year quotas.

Wheat quota for 1942 crop to be voted on early in 1942. Cotton quotas for 1942 will be voted upon in a referendum on December 13, 1941.

Crop
Insurance

Crop insurance offers growers protection against losses through drought, flood, or other unavoidable hazards; now applies only to wheat, but will be applicable on cotton in 1942.

Under 1941 program, 421,260 contracts were issued, on about 110 million bushels of wheat.

Income
Protection

Farmers' income will continue to be supported in 1942 by:

- (1) Greater purchasing power of nonfarm groups;
- (2) Loans on basic crops;
- (3) Government purchases of defense foods;
- (4) Conservation and parity payments;
- (5) Acreage allotments and marketing quotas to assist in preventing price-depressing surpluses.

Loans and payments -- near-parity for basic crops. Near-parity prices on defense foods encourage needed production.

Division of Information, AAA
U. S. Department of Agriculture
November 1941

